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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 086033-000000US
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On January 29, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Paula Paula Hurley

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Walter Sebald

Application No.: 09/913,467

Filed: August 13, 2001

For: POLYPEPTIDE VARIANTS WITH
INCREASED HEPARIN-BINDING
ABILITY

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 23, with the following replacement paragraph:

Thus, there is a general interest in members of the TGF- β superfamily and their variants with altered biological properties. Kubler et al. (1999) describe a BMP analog EHBMP-2 the primary structure of which differs from that of naturally occurring